

in the specification at least at page 9, lines 17-22, page 10, lines 8-20 and Figures 1-3 and 9-10. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully appreciates the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by the Examiner during the personal interview. The points discussed are incorporated into the following remarks.

**I. The Drawings Satisfy All Formal Requirements**

During a August 28, 2003 telephone conversation with the Examiner, the Examiner confirmed that the proposed drawing correction filed July 26, 2003 is approved. The Office Action incorrectly indicates that a proposed drawing correction was filed on August 20, 2002. Thus, the Examiner is requested to correctly indicate in the next Office Action that the proposed drawing correction filed July 26, 2002 is approved.

**II. The Claims Satisfy All Formal Requirements**

Although not objected to by the Examiner, claims 20-21 are amended to correct informalities. No new matter has been added.

**III. The Specification Satisfies All Formal Requirements**

During the personal interview, the Examiner asserted that the gate-length and gate - width directions are not clearly defined. Accordingly, the specification is amended to clarify these directions. As indicated above, support for these amendments are provided in the specification and shown in the Figures. No new matter has been added.

**IV. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter**

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-7, 20 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,614,730 to Nakazawa et al. (hereinafter "Nakazawa"); claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Nakazawa in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,316,960 to Watanabe et al. (hereinafter "Watanabe"); claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Nakazawa; and claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Nakazawa in view of JP 06163891 to Nishihara et al. (hereinafter "Nishihara"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

During the personal interview, the Examiner asserted that the dimensions of the gate electrode and its relationship to the scanning line and semiconductor layer need further clarification. Accordingly, claims 1 and 24 are amended to clarify the invention. As discussed above, support for these amendments is provided in the specification and the figures. No new matter has been added.

Nakazawa does not disclose that each of the scanning lines include a main portion and gate electrode, the gate electrode is disposed outside the intersection where the data line and scanning line cross, and the semiconductor portion protruding out of the channel region and

not being covered with the gate electrode only connects directly with the channel region, as recited in claims 1 and 24.

Instead, Nakazawa discloses various embodiments of an active matrix substrate that do not disclose the combination of all of the above features. Further, neither Watanabe or Nishihara make up for the deficiencies in Nakazawa as discussed above. On the contrary, Nakazawa and Nishihara disclose that semiconductor portions protruding out of the channel region connect with the channel region and source or drain region.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 24 are distinguishable over the applied art. Claims 2-8 and 20-21, which depend from claims 1 and 24, are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed as well as for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) is respectfully requested.

**V. Response to Arguments**


The Office Action asserts that Applicant relies on features (i.e., "a semiconductor portion that protrudes out of the gate electrode") that are not recited in the rejected claims. Applicant submits that this feature is clearly recited in claims 1 and 24. Thus, this assertion is respectfully traversed.

**VI. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8, 20-21 and 24 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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